MONTEREY COUNTY

Labor News

Covering the Counties of Monterey and San Benito

VOL. XV—NO. 45 SALINAS, CALIF., TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 1953 WHOLE NO. 767



One Year's Vacation!

Employees of Hedco Mfg. Co. in Chicago give a rousing cheer as their boss, Paul M. Davidson (seated, left) signs a contract with the AFL Electrical Workers providing for a full year's vacation with pay after 10 years of service. Employees who don't want to take the vacation can work for double pay. Sitting in on the signing are Union Pres. Frank Darling, center, and Wm. H. Cohen, Hedco vice-pres. (LPA)

LLPE Official Urges State Aid For National LLPE Drive

(State Fed. Release)

A fervent argument for 100 per cent cooperation with the current national LLPE one dollar contribution drive was made in San Francisco this week by William J. McSorley Jr., assistant director of the AFL's Labor League for Political Education.

McSorley last week addressed representatives of Bay Area labor councils and local units of the LLPE at a conference held in the Whitcomb Hotel, San Francisco, and later in the week held a similar meeting in Los Angeles. He explained that various internationals affiliated with the AFL are now conducting $1 contribution campaigns in conjunction with the national LLPE.

Under the present program, the funds collected by affiliates of the international bodies are mailed to headquarters of the international union and are then transferred to the national LLPE treasury in Washington, D. C.

Half of monies collected in this fashion in any state will be returned later to the duly established state LLPE organization for use in federal elections.

McSorley outlined the following major threats to the labor-liberal cause in the national capital:

1. A drive to give state labor laws "paramount rights" in labor-management relations, thus permitting state laws to take precedence over national labor legislation.

2. Assaults on the Wage-Hour Law, Davis-Bacon Law, and the Walsh-Healy Law to provide that these measures shall not apply in any state unless first approved by the respective state legislative body.

3. The attempt to impose a national sales tax on the wage earner public.

4. Abolition or crippling of the federal Social Security Law.

5. Extension of the "give-away" program to turn national resources over to private power and land companies.

6. A hard money policy, forcing up interest rates on commercial loans, private and municipal bonds, and home mortgages.

7. Destruction of the U. S. Labor Department through slashing of vital appropriations.

TEAMSTER ROUND-UP

Fifth annual truck-check was a great success on west coast, reports indicate. For example, in Washington, 50,000 jobs were checked . Final reports still being assembled. The check drew warm praise across the nation. ICC has a dozen or two checkers. Teamsters overnight furnished it with 5,000 capable checkers, making inestimable contribution to road and highway safety.

* * *

Petaluma Egg Drivers 624 unhappy 'cause bosses completely ignored subject of wages—nothing will hatch out of that . . . Richmond 315 and Oakland 70 and 853 have OK'd terms with Material Dealers, calling for six paid holidays, 5 cent increase across, boost in health plan from $6.65 to $9.50, and 3 days pay for a holiday worked . . . Monterey 890 has signed milk, highway pacts, is negotiating van, material, and ice contracts.

* * *

Western Conference convenes July 6, in Seattle . . . Modesto 386 opening rock-sand and produce negotiations . . . Attorneys representing western locals will have their own convention at the Western Conference, talk legal problems . . . Seattle Teamos get red hot ready for annual Teamster Salmon Derby August 23 . . . Drive safely—it pays!

* * *

Enroute: Merle Torelli, on the Los Angeles-Seattle Motor Express run, spent a pleasant week-end in Okanogan county—got a speeding ticket . . . North valley 137 talking lumber, grocery, delivery, drayage, sand, bread, and cheese pacts, reports Bro. Jerry Shearin.

* * *

If it's ice men at Salinas and egg men at Petaluma, it's also Smoke Fish and Tamale boys in L. A., pushing for a better contract . . . Milkers 304 cover 7 counties, turn out the leche for S. F. Bay region cities . . . Jack Marett, member of L. A. Milkers 737, back from trip to Australia, says wages, prices both high there, no unemployment, milkers, all machine pipeline, work seven days . . latest figures: Trucks now carry 8.3 billion tons of freight yearly, railroads 1.5 billion, pipelines 700 million tons, waterways 600 million, airways 315,000.

Flanagan, Regional AFL Head; Randall, District Director

New organizational set-up of the American Federation of Labor has been announced, on a regional basis, with Dan Flanagan, former director in this area, leaving government service and returning as AFL director for the 14th Region, including Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, and Nevada.

Tom Randall, acting regional director, will become a district director, possibly for the California district.

A meeting will be held at the Whitcomb Hotel in San Francisco on July 14 at which the new plans and policies of the AFL will be explained to AFL organizers by Harry O'Reilly, AFL director of organization, and Flanagan.

Randall, who was moved from the Southern California area to the regional office at 995 Market Street in San Francisco several months ago, has been active in appearing before labor groups throughout the area and has struck a very popular note with his theme that organized labor IS the community and must become a more obvious part of the community than it has been in the past.

He calls for an educational program to the unions to this end, and he believes that once this is achieved most if not all of our organizational problems are automatically solved.

He strongly believes that we must come to realize that our objectives are NOT ALL economic, that even more important is the political situation, which affects our daily life and sours it directly in proportion to the degree to which we are mis-represented by our elected representatives.

"We can't get any degree of security, that for which we earnestly strive, unless we have better, truer political representation," Randall believes.

"It's just like the desire to get recognition of unions in our public schools; how can we get it unless our womenfolk take part in the PTA and actually reach for this improvement?

"Organization never stops until we have acquainted the working family with its obligation to the community. Most of us put our unions first. But how can we have unions without community? We ARE the community. We represent ALL the people, **and set the pattern of working standards for all the people!**

"The working people must attain full representation in the community and in our political life if we are ever to attain the objectives toward which we have been striving so long, so earnestly, and with so many heart-breaking setbacks year after year."

State Federation Plans Convention

(State Fed. Release)

With the 1953 convention of the California State Federation of Labor set for August 10-14 in San Francisco, C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the state AFL organization this week issued the following reminders to affiliated unions and councils:

1. Hotel reservations should be made as quickly as possible with the application form for reservations being mailed to the **San Francisco AFL Housing Bureau, Room 300, 61 Grove Street, San Francisco 2, California.**

2. The list of authorized delegates should be mailed immediately to the office of the California State Federation of Labor, 810 David Hewes Building, 995 Market St., San Francisco 3, California. This list must be filed with the State Federation office at least two weeks prior to the opening and the convention.

3. The deadline for the receipt of resolutions **(in triplicate)** is Wednesday, August 5, 1953, except for those proposed by state-wide conferences of affiliated organizations held not less than three days prior to the opening of the convention, which may be filed up until 12 noon on Monday, August 10, 1953. All resolutions, except those proposed by such state-wide conferences, must be filed in the office of the California State Federation of Labor, 810 David Hewes Building, 995 Market Street, San Francisco 3, California.

Union Family—165 Yrs. Work for One Firm

San Francisco (LPA) — Henry Rahmer, of Shipfitters Local 9, has retired after 53 years at the Bethlehem shipyard. His father, Fred, worked at the yard five years. Henry's brother Louis, with 51 years, is still there, as is George, with 40 years. Three other brothers put in five years each. Total for the family for the shipyard—165 years.

Shipfitters Wanted

Tradesmen with experience as shipfitters are needed for employment now available in Bay Area shipyards, it was reported this week by Bay Area Shipfitters Local 9. Anyone interested should contact either of the union's offices—at 308 - 13th St., Oakland, or at Shipfitters Hall, 1980 Mission St., San Francisco.

Mail Carriers Ask Free Uniforms

Washington (LPA) — The nation's mail carriers have renewed their plea for free uniforms, on the ground that the Government now provides uniforms for most of its employees who need them.

William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, told the Senate Post Office Committee on June 17 that most cities provide uniforms for their firemen and policemen, and that the matter is particularly urgent now since the cost of uniforms has gone up steadily in recent years.

From the Post Office Department came the stock reply used for years: The Department's deficit. Postmaster General Summerfield estimates the cost of providing uniforms at $13 million a year.

Steelworkers Win Pay Increase, End Of Differential

Pittsburgh, Pa. (LPA)—The CIO Steelworkers won an industry-wide pay increase of 8½c an hour, applying also to iron ore miners. With other benefits, the increase comes to 10c, said David J. McDonald, union president. The union also wiped out the North-South differential, got an agreement from U. S. Steel for a joint study of pension and welfare provisions. Steel promptly boosted prices $4 a ton.

No T-H Changes At This Session, McConnell Admits

Washington (LPA)—Despite Eisenhower's pledges during the campaign, there will be no Taft-Hartley revision at this session of Congress. Rep. Samuel K. McConnell, Jr. (R., Pa.), chairman of the House Labor Committee, virtually said so after a White House conference June 19 attended by the President, Secretary of Labor Durkin, Senator Taft, Chairman H. Alexander Smith of the Senate Labor Committee, and presidential labor advisers.

Don't turn your back on economic freedom—the union!

Industrial Accident Bulletin Released

(State Fed. Release)

An education bulletin, explaining "Petitions for Reconsideration" in California industrial accident cases was released this week by the office of Frank A. Lawrence, Commissioner, State Industrial Accident Commission.

The bulletin, No. 22 in a series, covers such matters as the time limit for filing of such petitions, method of filing, grounds for filing, required contents of the petition, and necessary verification.

Free copies of the bulletin may be obtained by writing Frank A. Lawrence, Commissioner, Industrial Accident Commission, 965 Mission Street, San Francisco 3, Calif.

Freedom of Speech?

Danville, Ky. (LPA)—The Federal Communications Commission is investigating labor's complaint that a local radio station refused to sell time to the Laundry Workers to give the public their side of a strike against the Danville Laundry and Dry Cleaning Co.

Your best friends—the union and your labor paper!

EQUAL WORK--EQUAL PAY: Referee Rules Woman Given Less Pay Had Right to Quit

(AFL Release)

Albany, N.Y.—A ruling of a referee on unemployment claims in New York State made no bones about a man's work being worth a man's pay.

The ruling established that if a woman is offered less money for the same work, she has a right to quit her job without losing her right to collect unemployment insurance, the State Division of Employment said.

This case involved a woman who had been operating a lathe at 25 cents less per hour than men got for the same work. When the boss refused to pay her the same rate or transfer her to another machine, she quit and filed for unemployment benefits.

However, the insurance office disqualified her for 6 weeks on the ground that she had "voluntarily left her job without good cause."

Claiming she had been discriminated against because of her sex, she appealed the insurance office ruling. A referee upheld her appeal, deciding that she was "well within her rights in insisting that she receive equal pay for equal work."

He cited a section of the state's labor law which provides that "no employee shall, because of sex, be subjected to any discrimination in the rate of his or her pay."

LLPE MAKING PLANS FOR 1954 POLITICAL FIGHT

Atlantic City, N.J.—Pointing out that surveys have shown AFL members last year voted overwhelmingly in line with recommendations made by Labor's League for Political Education, LLPE Director James McDevitt told the New Jersey State Federation of Labor convention that the AFL political arm already is preparing for the 1954 Congressional campaign.

McDevitt said that 16 of the 33 U. S. senators who will be up for re-election next year have demonstrated by their voting records that they are interested in the welfare of all the people. All will have a serious fight on their hands. He said that the LLPE is planning to give as much aid as possible to trade unionists' friends in the House of Representatives, all members of which must stand for re-election in '54.

FOUR CHANGES MADE

The LLPE director told the delegates that four important changes have been made in the league's policies. They are:

1. A yearly campaign for voluntary contributions rather than a drive every two years.
2. Establishment of four regional offices to implement the work of the national league.
3. Establishment of a permanent women's division.
4. Return of 50 per cent of all contributions made in any state to be used in that state in the local campaigns.

"I am happy to report to the men and women assembled in this convention," McDevitt said, "that there is a very encouraging trend among our people today; they are evidencing tremendous interest in the program of your league, which is undoubtedly prompted by their deep concern over the policies enumerated by the new Administration.

"Almost every person you meet seems to ask the same question, 'What are we going to have in the way of governmental policies?'

CONGRESS DISAPPOINTS

"We have experienced considerable disappointment with respect to the failure on the part of Congress up to this very late hour to take any constructive action concerning amendments to the Taft-Hartley Act as the leaders of the Administration promised during the 1952 campaign, the tendency to place Social Security regulations under the respective states, and so many other problems that affect the working men and women of this nation.

"In spite of all this, we do not now, at this hour, as late as it may seem to be, want to be unduly critical. We once again are practicing patience and will wait until the Administration's policies are more clearly outlined."

McDevitt added, however, that "as strong as we think we are in the economic field as a result of our collective bargaining contracts, we are in serious danger because of the unfair provisions contained in the infamous Taft-Hartley Act."

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Employment Agency Racket Broken Up

San Diego—Deputy State Labor Commissioner Stanley Gue broke up an employment agency racket whereby fees of up to $200 were extracted from applicants who got jobs through the agencies.

One agency was ordered by a court, in upholding Gue's findings, to cut its fee from $150 to $13.85 and to refund $121.15 to an applicant. The ruling also barred the fee-charges from collecting money for "permanent employment" when the actual employment is for less than 91 days.

You can drop 'most everything else, but don't neglect your best bread and butter friend—the union.

Locking Up the Wrong Guy



Fed. Reviews the State Legislature

(State Fed. Release)

Review of the 1953 session of the recently concluded state legislature featured the Spring quarterly meeting of the Executive Council of the California State Federation of Labor held June 18-19 in Hollywood.

Secretary-Treasurer C. J. Haggerty surveyed labor's experience in bills affecting trade union functions, workmen's compensation, unemployment insurance, disability insurance, civil rights, housing, taxation, and public employees.

Other subjects covered included:

(1) Progress of the current organizing drives conducted by the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union, AFL, and the Southern California Metal Trades Council;

(2) The new unemployment insurance clearance system prepared for union memberships by the State Department of Employment;

(3) Prospects for counteracting Big Business propaganda in public high schols;

(4) Plans for the 1953 State Federation convention;

(5) Need for a state LLPE conference during the State Federation convention week.

The Executive Council was addressed by Assemblyman Charles Chapel of Inglewood and Thomas Randall, acting regional director of the American Federation of Labor.

President Thomas L. Pitts, of Los Angeles presided over the quarterly session which was held in the Hollywood-Roosevelt Hotel.

The meeting adjourned in memory of Jonathan Hollibaugh, recently deceased Assemblyman from Huntington Park.

Union Puzzler

New York (LPA)—Cipriano Ferraris, member of AFL Hotel and Club Employees Local 6, is achieving wide fame for the puzzles he originates as "Fubine" while off duty as timekeeper at the St. Regis Hotel. Some of his work appears in the July issue of Vogue and he is preparing two books for publication.

Unionist Honored

Louisville, Ky. (LPA)—Blue Shield honored William Marcum, a cigarette plant worker, at a dinner here as the 26-millionth member of the Blue Shield Plan in the U.S. and Canada.

Rich Doctors Fight Health Care Thru Phony Kids Essay Contest

Baltimore (LPA)—The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons is gloating over the success of its latest effort to fight health progress—a national high school essay contest in which the loaded topic given the students was "Why the Private Practice of Medicine Furnishes This Country With the Finest Medical Care."

A recent AAPS News Letter admitted that it took pressure from local organizations of physicians and their wives to force the contest on a number of high schools after "educational organizations withheld their sanction because the title of the contest does not permit students to write 'on the other side' of the issue."

AAPS described the two prize-winning essays as "excellent compositions," but expressed concern that one winner had drawn material from sources outside the "reference material supplied and recommended by the AAPS."

The essay, AAPS said, "unwittingly refers to a shortage of doctors." Certainly this idea wasn't found in AAPS-recommended material, the News Letter said, because "American Medical Association research has proved that there is no shortage of doctors.

Not among the recommended source materials was the latest and most complete compilation of facts on the nation's health—the five-volume report of the President's Commission on the Health Needs of the Nation. This report warned of an increasingly serious shortage of doctors.

AAPS also was horrified by the winning essay's reference to medical care plans sponsored by unions, employers, cooperatives and even the Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York (HIP) as among the praise-worthy "voluntary" health plans. "Most of these 'voluntary' plans are another route to socialized medicine," AAPS declared.

The contest was ballyhooed as a "medium for saving high school youngsters from socialism" and AAPS said the "misconceptions" in the prize-winning essays were proof enough that medicine must keep up its propaganda in this direction.

It pointed out that in 1948, a Purdue University poll showed that 80 per cent of the high school students polled favored "socialized medicine" (which according to AAPS is about any effort to get comprehensive medical insurance to people at prices they can afford).

AAPS congratulated itself that this percentage had been reduced to 55 per cent by the 1950 poll, but said that "despite this headway, it is a ghastly and shocking situation to find more than half of our high school students favoring socialized medicine."

'Miracle Hearing Aid' No Miracle at All, FTC Declares

East Orange, N. J. (LPA)—Miracle Hearing Aid, Inc., and Ruth Miller have been ordered by the Federal Trade Commission to stop advertising that "Miracle Hearing Aid" device lets completely deaf persons hear; improves the hearing of those with impaired hearing; doctors have approved the device; the initial cost is the only cost.

The firm must stop using the words "Hearing Aid" as part of its corporate or trade name, and must hereafter in its advertising stop failing to reveal that the device may result in serious injury to the auditory canal and ear drum.

FTC Cracks Down On Claims For Gasoline Additive

Charlotte, N. C. (LPA)—The Federal Trade Commission has ordered the Radiator Specialty Co. and its officers to stop misrepresenting the effectiveness of "Nu-Power" or "Nu-Power Upper Cylinder Lubricant," a gasoline additive.

The firm must stop claiming that use of either product will increase gasoline or oil mileage; will improve engine performance, give faster pick-up and smoother idling; keep valves and rings free of deposits, lengthen their life; reduce friction and prevent wear; protect metal surfaces.

SALINAS—Home of California Rodeo

UNIONS GET BEHIND DISMISSED TEACHER

(State AFL Teachers Release)

Many good citizens of Contra Costa County, the fifth largest county of the state are up in arms against a recent action of the superintendent and the Board of Trustees of the local four year old junior college which resulted in the firing of a "competent" social science instructor for not "cooperating" with the school administrators.

The teacher is the popular 36-year-old disabled hero of World War II, Stanley Jacobs, who is a father of two children, an active leader of the American Federation of Teachers' local at the Junior College and a civic-minded resident of the city of Richmond.

Joseph Genser, AFT attorney, charged that the refusal to rehire Jacobs was an anti-union tactic on the part of Drummond McCunn, the highest-paid junior college executive in the state, who came to Contra Costa County from residential Pasadena four years ago.

Ben Rust, AFT state president, described the refusal to give Jacobs tenure as the superintendent's desire "to show union teachers and labor that he was the boss of the college."

At a meeting of the college board recently before an overflow audience, the board denied that their action was anti-labor.

However, Jacobs revealed that administrators had remarked that he was "over aggressive" in organizing the AFT, that he "lacked faith" in the administration, and that he had a "cynical attitude" toward the administration.

A dissenting trustee, Elton Brombacher, printing plant proprietor and en route to Germany upon the invitation of the U. S. State Department, bitterly opposed the firing of Jacobs.

Brombacher reminded his colleagues that he was the only member of the board residing in the immediate vicinity of the college's west campus where Jacobs had been teaching since the college first opened its doors to students in February 1950.

CITIZEN AND TEACHER

He pointed out that he was personally aware of Jacobs' record as a citizen and a teacher, and that his competency to teach has never been questioned by the administration.

Brombacher hit back on some of the charges that the teacher was "uncooperative" by pointing out that upon his personal investigation of one of the examples of Jacobs alleged "uncooperativeness" he found that the administrator did not tell the truth.

Stanley Jacobs was employed by the college in February 1950. He was elected to the faculty salary committee. He has been the elected chairman of the social science teachers for two years. He has been a member of the important administrative advisory committee and the minutes of these meetings show that in every case motions which Jacobs introduced won the concurrence of the entire group.

Jacobs was the initiator of a successful project which became known as the "Student Forum." During the school year 1950-1951 more than half of the members of the faculty at West Contra Costa JC who were members of the AFT elected him to the presidency of the chapter. Recently he served as chairman of the AFT salary committee.

Jacobs was the prime mover in the establishment of the teachers' union scholarship fund which has made awards to three students.

Despite this record he has been advised that he hasn't been "a teamwork sort of person."

ANTI-UNION BIAS

Incensed over what is an unmistakable anti-union bias in the matter of Stanley Jacobs, Hugh Caudel, president of the County Central Labor Council, speaking for a joint committee representing his council and the Building and Construction Trades Council, told the board at a public meeting: "The Superintendent recommended Mr. Jacobs' dismissal because he is unalterably opposed to anyone who suggests that the professional relationships of teachers should be democratic."

And then Caudel, mincing no words, said: "Mr. Jacobs, a competent teacher, is being dismissed not because of his activities on behalf of Local 866, but because Mr. McCunn has made a personal issue out of Mr. Jacobs' tenure."

(If Jacobs' contract was renewed this spring he would have automatically received "tenure," which provides that a teacher may be dismissed only for "cause." Without tenure a teacher may be dismissed without the school board showing cause—which is the case here.)

The county CIO legislative representative, George Kelty, followed Caudel's appearance before the board and said the CIO is 100 per cent behind the AFL in the case of Stanley Jacobs.

Labor men point out that the board's action is ironic since it was the labor movement that provided funds, manpower and votes to establish the junior college district. It was conceded that without labor support the district would have never been formed, as the measure passed by a narrow margin.

A group of citizens outside of labor organizations are expressing their displeasure about the action of the college.

Under the chairmanship of a realtor, Mr. Jack Stoddard of El Cerrito, they are securing names to a petition asking the board to reconsider their action and re-employ Jacobs.

Congressman Robert L. Condon, State Senator George Miller, Jr., vice-chairman of the Senate Education Committee, Assemblyman S. C. Masterson and Supervisor Ivan T. Goyak are among the many civic leaders who have been critical of McCunn's action and attested to the constructive role Jacobs has played in the college and the community.

National AFT President Carl Megel flew in from Chicago to confer with the Superintendent, but to no avail. Megel pointed out that the Jacobs case is one of many in the nation and that labor must mobilize in support of competent union instructors.

Students, bewildered by the possible loss of a respected teacher, are reported to have been milling about the campus in between classes discussing the ouster.

It is reported that they are circulating petitions, writing letters, and generally showing their displeasure over the action of the college.

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We are happy to report the contract covering Growers Ice Vacuum Cool and Monterey Ice Vacuum Cool has been settled.

WELFARE FUND has proven to be very beneficial to many members, the following having received checks this week: Jack McWharter, Lester Hopkins, Berth Gervais, James Graham, Fred Gallagher, Bill Frisch, Cres Blasquez, Manuel Martin, William T. Williams, Don Carter, Orville Crabb, Morris Parks, Juan Lara, Don Adams, Frank Garcia and William Temple.

Alfred Mitchell, who has been driving for Salinas Valley Vegetable Exchange, is on the sick list and is now in the Monterey County Hospital. Here's wishing you a speedy recovery, Al..

We wish to express our sympathies to the family of Garland M. Hicks, who passed away June 21. Mr. Hicks was well liked by all who knew him and we will all miss him very much.

Manufacturers' Profits Up 9%, Hit 2-Year High

New York. (LPA)—With industrial production at a peace-time high, manufacturers' profits for the first three months of 1953 were 9 percent of the same period in 1952, and set a two-year high.

Corporation dividend payments for the first five months were 3½ percent better than in the like period in 1952, and a government survey showed that 1953 outlay for new plant and equipment will be even greater than the $27 billion forecast in January.

The figures were revealed as big business increased the pressure to kill the excess profits tax because the tax is "hurting business," and "stifling incentive." The figures also revealed that what's good for business is good for business, but not necessarily for the country.

For while profits and dividends forged ahead, the district of Columbia Bankers Association was warned deflation is on the way "but it will not be too serious as there are too many backstops to the economy." While the prophet of gloom, Prof. Raymond Rodgers of New York University graduate school of business administration, did not say so, the "backstops" were put there by the Democratic administration.

Meanwhile the National Association of Credit Men was told that the "going ahead though not necessarily impassable, may be rough" but that is "healthy," since " a normal readjustment is long overdue." And the installment credit commission of the American Bankers' Association warned bankers to get more cautious about loans.

And despite the hoopla that the Republicans put out when government interest rates were raised that this would ease the mortgage market, lending officials now say the new mortgage money has not shown up, people are finding it harder and harder to get government-guaranteed or government-insured mortgages, and housing starts have decreased.

"Improved distribution of what is already available and increased production resulting from reduction of unemployment and, especially, of underemployment can both make, and are making, enormous contributions to increased welfare."—I.L.O.

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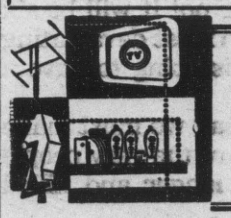
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A California Labor Press Publication

Official Organ of the Central Labor Union of Monterey County, Salinas, Calif.; Monterey Peninsula Central Labor Council, Monterey, Calif.; Monterey County Building Trades Council, Monterey, Calif.

Published Tuesdays at Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St., Salinas, California
Mail Address, P. O. Box 1410, Salinas, California

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year $3.00
Single Copies 10c

Special rates to members of organized labor subscribing in a body through their Unions.

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Entered as Second Class Matter February 20, 1937, at the Post Office at Salinas, California, under Act of March 3, 1879.

POSTMASTER: Please send Form 3579, Change of Address, to P. O. Box 307, Oakland 8, California.

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Hard Money and Hard Times

The Eisenhower Administration's policy of boosting interest rates in order to make housing mortgages more attractive to banks and other lenders has flopped. As a result, fewer veterans, union members and other house-hungry people are able to borrow money with which to buy or build a home—just as organized labor had predicted.

It has just been announced, for instance, that, for the first time since the end of World War II, there has been a decline between April and May in the number of new homes put under construction.

Government officials report that 10 per cent fewer veterans and 4 per cent fewer non-GI home-seekers have been able to get government-insured or government-guaranteed mortgages than before the higher interest rates became effective.

And the National Association of Home Builders said that a survey of builders over the nation reveals plans to lay off thousands of construction workers after July 1 unless housing credits loosen up.

According to the conservative Washington Evening Star —an Eisenhower supporter—"builders are crestfallen, government housing agencies are trying to hide their disappointment and even mortgage bankers see danger in the fiasco."

Even where an ex-serviceman is able to borrow money, the increased interest adds thousands of dollars to the amount he has to repay, with the exact total depending upon the length of his mortgage.

The Administration's high-interest policy for housing stems, of course, from its "hard money" policy in general.

. . . And Fat Bonds Grow Soft

When Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey raised the rate of interest on long-term government bonds by 30 per cent (from 2½ to 3¼), it was a signal for holders of other securities to sell out and get on the gravy train—if they could find buyers. As a result, many bond prices fell as much as 10 per cent. Thus if you held $1000 worth of a bond known as a Victory 2½, it would now be worth only about $900.

Banks now hold about $64 billion of government bonds and insurance companies about $11 billion. They used to sell these securities to make loans to home-buyers, businessmen and consumers, but they can't do it now without taking a terrific loss.

A vice president of one of the major insurance firms says that if his company sold its government bonds on today's market, its entire surplus would be wiped out. One little Mississippi bank worth only $100,000 in capital and surplus has lost $18,000 in value.

This dog-chasing-its-tail policy of ever-ascending interest rates of the present Administration was described by Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D., Minn.) as "without a doubt the most critical and crucial problem facing our government because it runs through the entire fabric of our economy."

In the words of Rep. Wright Patman (D., Tex.), a recognized expert on fiscal matters, "Whether or not it will be six months or 12 months or two years before its most devastating effects will be known, we do know that it is going to have a bad effect."

And to think that the very people who say we must make money "hard" in order to combat inflation are the very people who said inflation was not a danger any longer and killed price controls!



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When you become entitled to monthly Old-Age or Survivors Insurance payments, you will receive a check each month unless certain events occur. The law gives some events that will suspend the payment of monthly checks for one or more months. It also specifies other events that end your right to receive payments. These events are given below and you must report them promptly to the Social Security Administration if any of them happens in your case when you are drawing monthly benefits.

First, if you are not yet 75 years of age and you are receiving monthly payments either as retirement, as a dependent, or as a survivor, the benefit is not payable for any month in which you earn more than $75 in a job covered by the law. Monthly benefits to members of your family are not payable for any month in which your old-age benefit check is not payable

After you become entitled to monthly payments, you must notify the Social Security Administration if your wages are more than $75 per month for such employment. One notification only is necessary and your benefit will be suspended until you advise that you are no longer working in this manner.

Certain types of work are not covered by Social Security and you would not have to report such earnings. If you are doubtful about this, be sure to discuss it with your local Social Security office. If you are under 75 and render substantial services as a self-employed person as an owner or partner in a trade or business covered by the law and your net earnings average more than $75 a month during the taxable year, benefits are not payable for one or more months in that year.

Self-employment earnings of $900 or less for the taxable year will not affect your payments. For each additional $75 or part of $75, one month's benefit may not be payable. Generally, you perform substantial services when you actively engage in the operation of your trade or business. If you are drawing Social Security benefits and you become self-employed, you should discuss your situation with the Social Security Administration because individual circumstances differ.

If you are under 65 and are receiving monthly benefits as the wife or widow of an insured person, the payment may be made only while you have in your care a child who is also entitled to monthly benefits. When any person receiving monthly payments as a dependent or as a survivor marries, the payments are ended. Wife's benefits end in case there is a divorce.

A child's survivors benefit ends in the month before he or she reaches age 18. If the child marries before reaching age 18, his benefit stops. If a child is adopted by someone besides certain close relatives, his payment will end, and, of course, in the case of any beneficiary who dies, monthly benefits are ended. All of these events must be reported to the Social Security Administration promptly in order to avoid difficulty and possible penalties.

For further information on these or any other points regarding your Social Security, get in touch with your local Social Security Field Office at the address below.

Your Security Office is at 196 San Augustine St., San Jose 10. Phone CYpress 2-2480.



Washington, D. C.

• *Generous Congress . . .*

Congress is getting ready to give away to private utilities the Atomic Energy Program that cost the American Taxpayers about $14 billion. The Joint Congressional Atomic Energy Commission of the House and Senate held secret hearings recently, at which they listened to representatives of Dow Chemical and Detroit Edison—2 concerns which would like to get their clutches on the Atomic Energy Program you bought and paid for. Committee Chairman Sterling Cole, New York Republican, says the committee will continue to hold hearings with private concerns behind closed doors. Nothing secret about this Administration—after the giveaway is arranged, it will be announced.

• *Dodging Mr. Wilson:*

The Congressional Record carried confirmation of my report that Budget Director Dodge had ordered Defense Secretary Wilson to make drastic slashes in the Air Force budget. The copy of a letter from Dodge to Wilson was inserted into the Record by Cong. Mel Price, Illinois Democrat. It shows clearly that Dodge issued the orders by which Wilson shaped his Defense Department budget. You might say that it is a case where the former head of General Motors is being pushed around by a Dodge.

• *Profits Through Polio:*

Dr. Fred Laurentz, the City Health Officer of Houston, Tex., has disclosed the existence of a black market in the gamma globulin used as a polio preventative. Dr. Laurentz says that some doctors who place profits before their profession have bought the scarce blood derivative and are peddling it at fancy prices to parents who can pay the freight. Ordinary routine calls for the gamma globulin to be distributed free through city health officials who receive it from the Office of Defense Management. But supplies are short . . . and profits are long . . . so the black market medicine men are in business.

JOKES. Etc.

A mountaineer and his wife visited the city for the first time. The husband was interested in the street pavements and concrete sidewalks. Scraping his foot on the hard surfaces, he said to his wife:

"I don't blame them for building the town here. The ground is so hard they could never plow it, nohow."

* * *

"Dad," sighed the bobbysoxer as the latest jive number came to a close, "did you ever hear anything so absolutely wonderful?"

"No," the father replied wearily, "I can't say that I have, except for the time my car hit a truck loaded with empty milk cans and a wagonload of live ducks."

* * *

One murder makes a villain; millions a hero.—Porteus.

* * *

WHICH?

"Could you pay for an operation if I thought one was necessary?"

"Would you think one was necessary if I couldn't pay for it?"

* * *

Husband: "Dear, will you please turn off the radio?"

Wife: "It isn't on—now, as I was saying—

* * *

You can't expect politicians to oppose bookburning. Many of them would like to burn their record books.

* * *

Some people's prayer: O God! Grant that I may ever be right, for You know I never change.

* * *

Caller: "Say, Mister Editor, kin you give my boy Ephraim a job?"

Editor: "What can he do?"

Caller: "Well, at first he could only edit yer paper, but after a while he might learn to set yer type or run yer press or sumthin'."

* * *

Ability will get a man to the top of the ladder, but only character will keep him from falling off.

* * *

Don't be too harsh on the fellow

"Congratulate me, Jimmy; I'm engaged to Sally Jenks."

"I'm awfully sorry, Harry, but I can't conscientiously do it; I've been engaged to Sally myself."

* * *

Old Lady: Sonny, can you direct me to the First National Bank?

Sonny: I kin for a nickel. Bank directors don't work for nothin' in this town.

* * *

"I can't marry him, mother; he's an atheist—doesn't believe there is a hell."

"Marry him, dear, and between us we'll convince him he's wrong."

* * *

In amazement I watched the flea do his stunts.

"Did you educate that flea yourself?" I asked the man.

"Yes," he replied proudly, "I raised him from a pup."

* * *

"The great men are all dead," she said with evident regret.

"But the beautiful women are not," he replied, looking earnestly at her.

"Of course," she added, after a moments r'eflection, "I always except present company."

"So do I," he said.

"UNION MAID" —A Serial Story — by Stan Jennings





Here comes the summer sun to shine on fun-filled days! Vacation joys are everywhere. Not only far afield . . . but near at home, too. Enjoy yourself! Not only on your "two weeks with play" . . . but every day, the summer through.

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* *

"McCarthy, Eye-Catching Clown, as Ike Restores Horse and Buggy"

Washington (LPA)—Rumors that Secretary of Labor Durkin will resign because of dissatisfaction with the Eisenhower administration's handling of labor matters were turned aside by Undersecretary Lloyd Mashburn in a talk June 12 before the Labor Press Association annual meeting.

He said he didn't think Durkin would "quit in a fight any more than labor would quit in an organizing drive." Both he and Durkin intend to "stay and fight and labor will come out on top just as it always does," he declared. It's a good thing, he said, to "have two people in the Administration who recognize the needs of people who work with their hands."

Mashburn said he was "optimistic" about the Senate restoring the Labor Department budget cuts made by the House. He said it doesn't do a damn bit of good" to have good laws like Walsh-Healey and Davis-Bacon on the books unless the Department has "money to enforce them."

Other speakers at the meeting were Rep. George Rhodes (D., Pa.) member of the AFL Typographical Union and former editor of the Reading New Era, weekly AFL paper; Tilford Dudley, CIO Political Action Committee; and Glen Slaughter, AFL Labor's League for Political Education.

Rhodes expressed concern over the "serious reactionary trend" in the U.S., which he said was promoted by "dishonest and corrupt" daily newspapers which give space to such people as McCarthy, but deny space to liberals. "There is nothing more threatening to freedom in America than this corruption of the press," he said.

He suggested the establishment of weekly or monthly labor newspapers in all big industrial cities but said it would not be "practical at this time" to launch a national labor daily because of the tremendous problems involved, such as getting hold of popular features controlled by big press monopolies.

Referring to an interview he had in 1948 with Eisenhower, Dudley said he was convinced the President's action were not "a sell-out," but resulted from long-time personal convictions of the "horse and buggy era."

Slaughter said the labor press was doing a good job in bringing the issues home to the members, "but the problem is to get the members to read." McCarthy, he said, "is being used like a circus to divert the attention of the people from the real issues."

On the chances for a more liberal Congress in '54, Slaughter said "there is a very good chance, if the situation in Congress continues to displease great multitudes of people, that we could have a sweep in the House in the other direction from '52." On the Senate, he said labor would be "doing quite well, if we hold our own."

You can drop 'most everything else, but don't neglect your best bread and butter friend—the union.

Labor Unit in India

Bombay, India (LPA)—A Central Labor Institute will be established in Bombay under a U.S.-India agreement establishing a program of technical assistance to India. The Institute will be a socio-economic research laboratory and center for specialized training in labor problems.

Chemical weed killers help clean old alfalfa land for planting new crops.

Support the labor press!

Union Astronomer

San Francisco (LPA)—Hubert J. Bernhard, Newspaper Guild unit chairman at the Call-Bulletin here, is a star writer—and a writer on stars. He's been named as lecturer at the Morrison Planetarium, holding down the job while off duty at the newspaper.

Microscopic photography achieving a third-dimensional effect has been devised by a scientist on the Los Angeles campus of the University of California.



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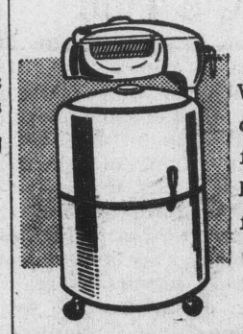
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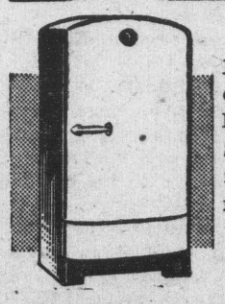
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WHERE DOES THE DOLLAR GO?

By DEWEY ANDERSON

At the end of the last century Senator William Maxwell Evarts (R., N.Y.) visited George Washington's home, Mount Vernon. He was told that General Washington had once tossed a silver dollar across the Potomac. His famous comment was:

"You know a dollar would go farther in those days."

How far and where our dollar goes today is something that a lot of people would like to know. However, Congress has taken the unusual step of blocking any such study. At the very end of a bill appropriating funds for the Federal Trade Commission, this provision has been attached:

"Provided furtner, that no part of the foregoing appropriation shall be available for a statistical analysis of the consumer's dollar."

The FTC had already started a study and investigation which would show the breakdown of the consumer food dollar. It had been requested by former President Truman. The Commission had asked for $186,000 to complete the study.

FTC Chairman James M. Mead, in commenting on the study, said: "We believe this will be one of the most significant fact-finding programs ever undertaken by the Federal Government."

Bread, flour, milk, butter, cigarettes and fertilizer would have been covered in the study. It would show how the dollar spent for these items by the consumer is being divided up among retailers, wholesalers, transportation agencies, manufacturers and farmers.

Investigations by the Bureau of Agriculture Economics of the Department of Agriculture indicate a serious economic picture. The farmer's share of the consumer's dollar has dropped to the lowest point since 1940.

A study shows that the farmer received only 45 cents of the consumer dollar in 1952. In 1950 it was 50 cents. In 1945 it was 54 cents. In the depression year of 1942 it was 32 cents, illustrating why economists fear a dropping share to farmers.

Based on Agriculture Department studies PAI has determined that consumers spent $2.9 billion more in 1952 than 1951 to fill the family food basket. And while the farmer was getting less income during this period, the various middlemen received $3.8 billion more.

From the middle of 1951 to the middle of 1952 reports of the FTC and the Securities and Exchange Commission showed that middlemen profits were up 11 per cent after taxes. This group included food processors — meat packers, dairy companies, grain mills, canned fruit and vegetable companies, etc.

The purpose of the proposed FTC study was to determine just who is getting the lion's share of the increases in market charges: the wholesaler, the retailer, or the food processor.

Senator Harley Kilgore (D., W. Va.) called the amendment prohibiting the study, a "Food Profiteers Rider." He charged: "Someone is apparently bound and determined that the American people shall not be provided with the facts on profiteering that is now going on at the expense of farmers and consumers."

Senator Leverett Saltonstall (R., Mass.) in opposing the appropriation, said that the study can be made by the Department of Labor, Department of Agriculture or a Congressional committee.

Senator Paul A. Douglas (D., Ill.) replied that "There are no figures which show the amounts" which go to the various groups, and limited funds prevent other agencies from making such studies.

The vote in the Senate, against the study, was 45-30.

Apparently, the "almighty dollar," of which Washington Irving wrote, is still too powerful to be investigated.

Don't turn your back on economic freedom—the union!



WILLIAM GREEN SCHOOL—The first public school in the country to be named for the late president of the AFL (inset) was dedicated in Los Angeles, Calif., at ceremonies attended by regional and local AFL officials. The school houses 750 pupils and 21 teachers. (LPA)

MINNEAPOLIS WORKERS ELECT 13 LIBERALS

(A. F. of L. Release)

Minneapolis, Minn.—Minneapolis workers rang up a resounding victory in the city elections as 13 labor-endorsed liberals won election. Labor, through the AFL Political and Educational Committee, had endorsed candidates for 18 offices.

Labor waged an effective campaign preceding the election, carrying to the voters an effective message of the issues involved. Parker Nolan, chairman of the Political and Educational Committee, directed the work of the committee, and Ruby Stevens, campaign director of Labor's Volunteer Committee for the School Board, played a major role in the election of two prolabor school directors.

Probably the most important result of the balloting was the election of a liberal majority to the city council. When the new council organizes, eight of the 13 members will be liberals, one of the most impressive liberal majorities in the history of the city. Reelection of Mayor Eric Hoyer will continue the mayor's office in the liberal tradition, and the election of two new liberals to the school board will give workers and small taxpayers a more representative voice in the management of the city's schools.

The re-election of Al Hansen as comptroller and Ed Chalgren to the park board will also continue able and representative management in the city's financial and park departments.

AMA Handing Out Same Old Line

Washington (LPA)—Despite all the evidence to the contrary, the American Medical Association is still handing out the same old line. Dr. David B. Allman, of Atlantic City, N. J., testifying in behalf of the AMA before the House Ways and Means Committee on June 17 regarding tax revision, said medical costs today "are not out of line with other normal living expenses." He declared there were "misconceptions" about the costs of medical care.

At the same session, Rep. Oliver P. Bolton (R., Ohio), urging that all medical and dental expenses be deductible for income tax purposes, said that with medical costs as high as they are, "a man may have the savings of his life wiped out in one year" because of extraordinary medical expenses.

Dr. Allman went along part way. He was for "a greater measure of relief" for those "who have suffered from the financial burden resulting from the expense of a serious, long-term illness."

Big Labor Day

Kenosha, Wis. (LPA) — "Bigger and better than ever"—that's the goal of the joint AFL and CIO Labor Day Committee here, which in mid-June started regular meetings to plan for the annual event.

Making Ends Meet

Choice Beef Cuts Will Suffer Summer Seasonal Jump

By NANCY PRATT

Choice cuts of beef will cost more this summer. In July and August better cuts may be up as much as 20 per cent. This will be mainly a seasonal rise. Midwestern farmers buy range cattle in the fall and fatten them on corn over the winter months for sale in the spring. This spring unusually large supplies were marketed. This means that there will be fewer steaks at the butcher's counter in the summer months. Supplies of lower grade beef, from grass fed stock are still plentiful and prices for such beef should remain stable. By next fall prices in all beef lines should be lower.

* * *

OTHER DECLINES

Lower prices are predicted for most vegetables. Such popular summer items as tomatoes, watermelons, and cantaloupes will sell below last year's prices. Good buys are also expected in carrots, cauliflower, celery, eggplant, and green peas.

* * *

IT'S THE HUMIDITY

Too much rain in the last few weeks in most parts of the country has housewives frantic over mildew ruining things stored away in the cellar. If you can't afford an electric dehumidifier, try to rig up a home-made contraption that will help save a lot of things from being ruined by mildew and dampness.

Take an old pail, make a few holes in its bottom and also some holes on the outside near the bottom. Fill the pail with common coarse salt, the kind once used for ice cream freezers. You can get a bag at a hardware store. Set the pail in a large basin in a corner of your basement. The salt will absorb the moisture from the air and the accumulated water will drip down into the basin.

Some of the salt will melt away, so more will have to be added. But the rest can be used over by spreading the crystals on a sheet of paper outdoors to dry on a sunny day.

* * *

HOUSEHOLD TIP

The next time you hear a yell because the kids have left a piece of chewing gum on a chair that somebody sat down on, don't run for the cleaning fluid, try the icebox. A piece of ice rubbed over the gum will make it hard and brittle, so that it can be easily scraped off the fabric.

* * *

SUMMER COMFORT

Try outsmarting summer pests. Mosquitoes and most other bugs, except certain moths, are repelled by amber light. To increase your evening's peace and quiet, put amber bulbs in your porch lights. This will help keep bugs away. If you have a garage or another outlet a short distance away from the front lawn, put in a blue bulb. Repelled by the amber bulbs, the bugs will be attracted by the blue bulb and leave you alone.

* * *

BEST POLICY

The union label is a type of insurance that charges no premium but pays you dividends in assuring you quality products. Make it your policy to buy goods that bear the union label.

Medical Society Charges Doctors Boosting Fees

Worcester, Mass. — The Worcester District Medical Society charged in its monthly publication that some doctors are overcharging their patients who carry surgical insurance.

In a recent editorial, the Worcester District Medical News called attention to the fact that the number of people covered by such insurance, particularly Blue Shield, the surgical insurance counterpart to the Blue Shield Hospital plan, had so increased that "doctors are paid as never before.

"But some doctors have become hungry," the editorial continued. "Where they formerly accepted the $50 or $100 that a patient could pay for a procedure, they now accept the fee from the Blue Shield or other insurance and add another $50 or more for the patient to pay.

"In some cases the patient has 2 insurance policies and some surgeons double their fee on the theory that the patient should not benefit—the surgeon should."

Rapid Tax Write-off Granted on $197 Million More of Facilities

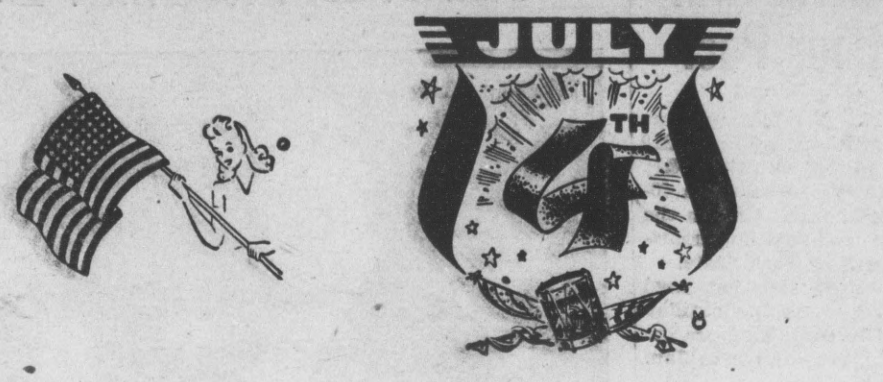
Washington (LPA)—Uncle Sam has handed out quick tax relief on 149 more defense or defense-connected facilities amounting to more than $197 million. Of this, four firms got more than $73 million, the other 145 split the rest.

This brought the grand total handout by Uncle Sam to more than $16 billion on more than $26 billion worth of new or expanded facilities since the program was set up, permitting amortization in five years instead of the usual 20 to 25 years.

The big four in the latest ride on the gravy train are: New York Central on $23 million of facilities; Texas Power & Light, $17.5 million; Public Service of Indiana, $17 million; Houston Lighting & Power, $16 million.

In 1952, about 2 1/5 billion dollars was paid to over 5 million persons in social security insurance benefits.

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Independence Day

"We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

From the Declaration of Independence, adopted by the Continental Congress, July 4, 1776.

Wipe Out Social Security Is Goal of "Doctors' Lobby"

Outright abolition of Social Security! That's a shocking goal just announced by one of the branches of the "Doctors' Lobby"—the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons.

That organization would go even further than the United States Chambers of Commerce. The Chamber, as previously reported, has been pressing a program to undermine Social Security.

But now the medical outfit insists on a complete wrecking job. Its objectives were frankly revealed in a news letter which reported a resolution the association has adopted.

Brazenly, the resolution asked that "serious consideration be given to having the Federal Government abandon Social Security by (a) having the individual states finance and administer pensions if their citizens so desire; (b) paying off the present beneficiaries with federal funds, or (c) transferring the risk to legitimate insurance companies."

HEARTLESS PROGRAM

In other words, that branch of the Medical Lobby would eliminate the federal system of old age pensions and other benefits, and leave the aged as well as other dependents at the mercy of the states or of the private insurance trust. Presumably, it would also do the same with railroad retirement benefits.

This heartless program is being put forward under the phony banner of "stop socialism!"

That's only half the story. The same Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, it was revealed recently, has also been pushing a brazen new propaganda campaign, this time by a one-sided contest aimed at poisoning the minds of school children against health insurance.

The project has been so raw that national educational organizations refused to have anything to do with it, but the Association managed to high-pressure a lot of local school authorities into going along with the scheme.

This "poison pen" undertaking drew fire from the Committee for the Nation's Health, the organization which, with cooperation from organized labor, has been spearheading the drive for national health insurance.

As subject of the essay contest the lobby picked this: "Why the Private Practice of Medicine Furnishes This Country With the Finest Medical Care." It allowed no opportunity for the other side.

BOGEY OF "SOCIALISM"

With the contest, the organization sent a lot of literature picturing health insurance as "socialized medicine" and claimed it was trying to "save our high school youngsters from socialism."

The Physicians-Surgeons' outfit admitted it could not get the help of national educational groups, because the contest was so one-sided, but boasted of the way it got around that.

"In almost every instance where objections to the contest have been raised," one of its bulletins gloated, "citizen-doctors and their citizen-wives—working through their respective societies and auxiliaries—have been able to enlist the cooperation of local school bodies." In other words, the Doctors' Lobby put the political "heat" on local school authorities.

Taxi Drivers Swarm To Donate Blood In Emergency

St. Louis (LPA)—Shortly after AFL Teamsters Local 405 of taxicab drivers announced it was setting up a blood bank "for its members, their families—and in emergency, for anyone who needed blood," it proved that it meant just that.

Informed that a 70-year-old woman lay near death in City Hospital, union officers sent out a call through stewards for volunteer donors. Next day more than 100 cabbies pulled up at the hospital.

The hospital's blood bank personnel picked out as many men and women drivers as they could handle at the time, collected 19 pints of blood. Heading the donors were the local's three full-time officers.

"Typical of the new civic spirit operating in Local 405," was the way Secretary-Treasurer Robert "Barney" Baker characterized the swarming of members in the emergency. Donating blood is only one phase of the lifesaving program launched by the local, he said. Cabs are carrying signs urging motorists to drive safely and the cabbies are setting an example in cautious driving.

One night a month is not too much to ask for a union that devotes its full time to your welfare.

1,470 Workers Victims Of Pay Chiselers In Oregon Industry

Coos Bay, Ore. (LPA)—Underpayment of $166,778 to 1470 Oregon workers covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act in the past 11 months was uncovered by the U.S. Labor Department's Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions.

Madison R. Smith, field office supervisor for the divisions, told delegates to the annual convention of the State Federation of Labor June 16 that investigations in 417 establishments revealed 26 violations of the minimum wage section, 197 on overtime pay and 16 on child labor.

In some establishments, Smith reported, there were violations of both the provisions requiring pay of at least 75 cents an hour and the section setting pay beyond 40 hours a week at not less than one and a half times the hourly rate.

Durkin Receives Honorary Degrees

Chicago (LPA)—Secretary of Labor Martin P. Durkin received an honorary degree of doctor of laws from DePaul University June 10. He was honored as a trade union leader in the Gompers tradition who has served labor, management and the public with distinction for 30 years.

On the day before, at Detroit, Secretary Durkin received a similar degree from the University of Detroit.

Front Page, Hard Way

Denver (LPA)—Dave Mathias, Newspaper Guild member here, made page one the hard way. A photographer on the Post, he fell 30 feet, broke both arms and several ribs, while taking pictures. The paper featured a story about him, and the photos he got before the accident.

Montana Bldg. Trades

Great Falls, Mont. (LPA)—Of the 11 Building and Construction Trades Councils in Montana, seven sent delegates here to set up a state council. Claude Sanders of Butte, Operating Engineers, was elected president, and E. R. Britton of Great Falls, Laborers, was chosen secretary-treasurer.



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Labor News

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 1953

"A Long Line at the Gate"—

Alaskan Employers Spreading Fables About Wages, Employment in Territory

Some famous rascal amongst employers once said: "The best answer to demands of workingmen for more money is a long line of unemployed at the gate."

With this aphorism in mind, some Alaskan employers have apparently decided to swell the labor market in the Territory by spreading wild takes about the employment opportunities and wages paid there. They have advertised in States-side papers that building and other tradesmen can make as much as $300 a week and that there is a construction "boom," one involving more than "55 gigantic construction projects."

All this is the purest fabrication, according to Tom Canafax of Local 375 of the United Association, Fairbanks, who says:

"These members have made the long and costly trip to Alaska on the strength of this and other misrepresentations, to find themselves destitute and without opportunities of employment; many of them with families. This sad truth is of course multiplied among other crafts of the building and construction trades.

"It is perhaps difficult for you to visualize the great number of U. A. members who have been lured to Alaska, but believe us they number in the hundreds and the plights of some are heartrending. We beseech you to do all that is possible to prevent more of our brothers making the expensive and fruitless trip to the Territory that so many have made already.

"Please post this newspaper on your bulletin board, not forgetting the editorial on page two. Gain publicity for it in your local press if possible. If you have a labor publication in your locality, please request airing of this dirty fraud through that medium. Exhaust every measure to discourage our people coming to Alaska seeking employment unless authorized by one of the three local unions of the U. A. in the territory.

"We cannot make this appeal to each and every local union of the U. A., so we suggest that in your correspondence and associations with nearby sister local unions you inform them of the deplorable situation here. We further suggest you inform the editor of SAGA of this letter and the newspaper article, protesting that publication accepting and circulating such fraudulent and misrepresenting advertisements."

'Greetings'—Many Will Be Drafted in Unemployed Army

Washington (LPA)—Two million new jobs a year through 1956 and an 18 per cent increase in the average per capita income are needed to forestall a serious economic downturn, CIO President Walter Reuther said June 19.

Pointing out that both the labor force and productivity are steadily increasing, Reuther said that unless serious private and public planning are started now to assure full employment, the country may face "a new and unpopular draft—a draft into a standing, growing, dangerous army of the unemployed."

People who think a little bit of depression may be a good thing "have got to realize," he said, "that a depression is like pregnancy. You can't have just a little without getting yourself into a lot of trouble."

In answer to a reporter's suggestion that the Republican Administration would probably agree on the need for planning, but would defer action, Reuther said:

"That's the problem we're worried about. Advance planning must be done in advance of the actual need in order to prevent a crisis from coming into being." It would be "economically insane," he said, to follow a drifting policy "which would place millions of Americans on a peacetime dole."

Steel Prices Boosted $4 a Ton on Heels Of Raise to Union

New York (LPA)—After granting a wage boost to the CIO Steelworkers, U. S. Steel promptly raised its prices $4 a ton, and other steel firms followed. General Electric announced price increases on appliances, blaming the steel price hike. And gasoline prices went up.

(On an air conditioner that retails for $300, the added cost of steel comes to 35c.)

Industry sources estimated the steel price increase would add $38,800,000 to the nation's defense bill, but Government procurement experts said the steel boost would have only a "negligible" effect, and will "hardly be noticed," since the price of steel is a minor factor compared with other costs.

U. S. Steel officials declared the price hike comes to only two-tenths of a cent per pound. They neglected to say that they don't sell steel by the pound, but by the ton.

Bowler's Dream—True!

Buffalo (LPA)—The dream of all bowlers came true for Ed Grzybowski of CIO Auto Workers Local 897. On the final night of the season for the Ford local's league he rolled a perfect 300 game.

To be democratic, a union needs an active, interested membership.

'SMALL DEPRESSION' 'FEW MORE JOBLESS'

Newspapers recently carried a rash of stories to the effect that the Eisenhower Administration is working on a "master plan" to combat any depression that might set in.

All major government departments, the stories said, have been directed by the White House to submit their ideas on such a plan. The undertaking is being headed by Dr. Arthur F. Burns, the President's chief economic advisor.

In contrast with these stories was another carried by a Washington publicist in a "confidential" document sent to business men around the country. The document declared that the Administration, for the present at least, is engaged in a deliberate effort to "slow up the boom" and bring the economy "down to a lower level."

Also, it said Federal officials want to "see a bit more unemployment," with jobless rolls rising to about 2,500,000, as against 1,500,000 now.

Retail Clerks Win Wage, Hour Pact

(A. F. of L. Release)

Buffalo, N. Y.—Through an agreement negotiated by Local 212 of the Retail Clerks with the A.&P. Co., store employes will have a 40-hour week for the first time in the history of the food retailing industry in western New York State.

Minimum wages were increased by $3 to $16 a week for regular employes and 10 cents an hour for part-time help, retroactive to Jan. 13.

The new scales range from $60 for the 4th-year clerks and cashiers with $43 for the first year, to $93 for assistant managers at supermarkets. At other stores, they range from $57, with $40 for the first year, to $89 for assistant managers.

Boilermakers and Blacksmiths Meet

Minneapolis, Minn. — The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers and the Blacksmiths, Forgers & Helpers will hold their first convention since their consolidation beginning June 29.

The organizational strength of the unions is established on the basis of freedom of the individual in conformity with the U. S. Constitution. Under the supervisions of President Charles MacGowan of the Boilermakers and President John Pelkofer of the Blacksmiths, and their executive officers, the two unions have operated with complete cooperation.

Various committees on arrangements will meet before the convention.

Plan Now to Avoid Post-Korea Depression, Reuther Urges

Washington (LPA) — Two million new jobs each year through 1956 and an 18 per cent increase in per capita income is necessary to forestall a serious economic downturn, CIO Pres. Walter P. Reuther declared June 19. Increasing population and productivity, he said, make it necessary for private and public planning to be started immediately to avoid "a new and unpopular draft—a draft into a standing, growing, dangerous army of the unemployed."



Coronation

Seattle Mayor Allan Pomeroy presents the coronation robe to Shirley Givens after her selection as Queen of Union Label in a contest sponsored by the Seattle Union Card and Label Council. Contest is the only one of its kind in the country. Shirley, a member of the AFL Office Employees, represented her father's union, Pressmen's Local 39, in the contest. (LPA)

OEIU's Gift to Cancer Drive



Members of the Office Employes International Union, AFL, Local 153, gave a testimonial dinner to their business manager, Howard Coughlin, at which he requested that the usual personal gift be omitted and the entire proceeds be turned over to the American Cancer Society. The proceeds bought a station wagon, plus $1,000 left over which Coughlin is shown turning over to John Reed Kilpatrick, chairman of the New York City Cancer Committee of the American Cancer Society.

CARPENTER ROUND-UP

Watsonville 771 re-elected Pres. Rex Carruthers, BA Mike Craner. Santa Cruz 829 elected Pres. Forrest McMahan, BA Sam Combs. Monterey 1323 named Pres. Gene Norman, re-elected BA Thomas Eide. Salinas 925 named Melvin Martin pres., re-elected BA H. B. Baldwin. Richmond 642 re-elected Pres. Lanse T. Curtis. Martinez 2046 elected Pres. B. O. Roberts. Vallejo 180 elected Pres. Lou Harmon. Napa 2114 named Pres. Al Lunty, BA Fred Schoonmaker.

Ventura 2463 elected Pres. De Vere Wood and BA Chet Price. Santa Maria 2477 elected Pres. Mervin Roinestad, Secy. George Hobbs. S. F. Millmen 42 elected Pres. Homer Brock, BA Chas. "Tex" Johnson. Stockton Local 266 named Pres. Geo. Hiner, BA Cliff Dunning. Eureka 1040 named Pres. David W. Murphy and BA Dale Mosher. Redding 1599 elected Pres. L. A. Brown, BA Vic Lang. Marysville 1570 elected Pres. Dan Lee and BA F. P. New. Sacramento 586 named Pres. L. DeMoulette and Secy. A. N. Allen.

* * *

For the third year, San Diego Butchers and Carpenters fought it out with fish hooks in the annual Fishing Derby between the two unions on June 28. Carpenters 1296 expect to retain the trophy they've held for two years. Score is changed this year from number of fish caught to total weight.

* * *

Sen. Wayne L. Morse will address 17th convention of Northwestern Council of Lumber and Sawmill Unions in Spokane in August. . . . Unemployment situation very bad in Alaska at present —stay out! . . . Northern Division of District 6, United Brotherhood, meets at Olympic Hotel, Seattle, July 27, Gen. Pres. M. A. Hutcheson announces.

Labor Spokesman At ILO Refutes Employers' Attacks

Geneva (LPA)—The A. F. of L.'s George P. Delaney, U. S. labor representative at the current session of the International Labor Organization, refuted the charge of C. E. Shaw, U. S. employer spokesman, that the ILO was trying to be a "super-state." He told the ILO that productivity does not grow in an economic and social vacuum, and that workers must share in productivity gains.

Oklahoma Is 11th State to Kill 'Right To Work' Bills

Oklahoma City. (LPA)—Organized labor continued its winning fight against phony "right to work" bills as Oklahoma became the 11th state where such measures were kept off the statute books this year. The legislature adjourned with three bills dead in committee pigeonholes.

Chambers of Commerce and other employer organizations, as they have in many other states, went all-out in a campaign for the measures which would ban the union shop or any other form of union security. No state has passed such a bill during 1953.

Labor spokesmen in the state credited House Speaker James C. Nance with playing a major role in blocking floor action on the bills. One of the best-known Democratic leaders, he's a likely candidate for governor next year. He heads a newspaper organization publishing 16 daily and weekly papers which helped combat the propaganda drive by big city papers in favor of the curb on unions. His brother wrote strong editorials exposing the real purpose of the bills as "to weaken and, if possible, outlaw unions."

Unionists also credited the newspaper "Labor," published by railroad unions, with giving them strong assistance. They arranged to have copies of the paper sent to all members of the legislature while the fight was on.

"Right to Work" bills were introduced in the House and Senate, while a third measure called for a state referendum on the issue. The latter would have put labor under a severe handicap, since the large daily newspapers would have given voters only one side of the question.

Gives 55 Pints Blood

Portland, Ore. (LPA)—Lynn A. Stark, Teamsters' member, has donated 55 pints of blood to the Red Cross since 1941. In September of 1943 a brother was killed in the South Pacific. Blood would have saved him. Since then, Stark has been donating blood every 60 days. A brother has given 20 pints, and a sister-in-law has donated 32.

"The issue of war or peace is the supreme test of international faith. Some day that faith may be strong enough to make wars obsolete."—I.L.O.